

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) ~~A processor-readable medium having~~ One or more computer storage media storing processor-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, perform operations comprising:

presenting a first user interface (UI) on a first multimedia presentation system at a first locus, the first UI providing a listing of multiple loci within a physical environment to which a bookmark can be sent;

receiving, through the first UI, a user request to send a bookmark to a specified second locus from among the multiple loci, the second locus including a second multimedia presentation system, the bookmark including an indication of a point within a multimedia program;

sending the bookmark to the second multimedia presentation system at the second locus;

in response to the second multimedia presentation system receiving the bookmark, and without user interaction, presenting a second UI on the second multimedia presentation system, the second UI prompting for user-selection to resume the multimedia program at the second multimedia presentation system;

in response to presenting the second UI, receiving a user selection through the second UI;

requesting that a communicatively coupled multimedia server stream to the second multimedia presentation system, the multimedia program, beginning from the point within the multimedia program indicated by the bookmark; and

presenting the multimedia program at the second multimedia presentation system from the point within the multimedia program indicated by the bookmark.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~A medium~~ One or more computer storage media as recited in claim 27, wherein the first UI includes a listing of bookmarks associated with a particular multimedia program, and the user request to send a bookmark includes a bookmark selected from the listing of bookmarks associated with the particular multimedia program.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~A medium~~ One or more computer storage media as recited in claim 27, wherein the first UI includes a listing of bookmarks associated with a particular multimedia program based upon one or more properties associated with the bookmarks.

30. (Currently Amended) ~~A medium~~ One or more computer storage media as recited in claim 27, wherein the second UI includes a listing of one or more bookmarks associated with a particular multimedia program based upon one or more properties associated with the bookmarks, the one or more properties being selected from a group consisting of:

identity of the particular multimedia program;

relative point of the bookmark during the presentation of the particular multimedia program;

a category of the particular multimedia program;

a locus of a system where the particular multimedia program was bookmarked;

identity of a user who manually bookmarked the particular multimedia program;

chronological time of generation of the bookmark;

chronological date of generation of the bookmark.

31. (Currently Amended) ~~A medium~~ One or more computer storage media as recited in claim 27, wherein the second UI graphically illustrates one or more of the following:

identity of the multimedia program;

relative point of the bookmark during presentation of the selected bookmarked multimedia program;

a category of the multimedia program;

a locus of a system where the multimedia program was bookmarked;

identity of a user who bookmarked the multimedia program;

chronological time when the multimedia program was bookmarked;

chronological date when the multimedia program was bookmarked; or

relative time when the multimedia program was bookmarked.

32. (Currently Amended) ~~A medium~~ One or more computer storage media as recited in claim 27, wherein the second UI includes a listing of broadcast media programs that have one or more bookmarks.

33. (Currently Amended) ~~A medium~~ One or more computer storage media as recited in claim 27, wherein the second UI includes a listing of broadcast media programs available with indicators corresponding with broadcast media programs that have one or more bookmarks.

34. (Currently Amended) ~~A medium~~ One or more computer storage media as recited in claim 27, wherein the second UI includes a grid listing of broadcast media programs available with indicators corresponding with broadcast media programs that have one or more bookmarks.

35. (Currently Amended) ~~A medium~~ One or more computer storage media as recited in claim 27, wherein the second UI includes a listing of broadcast media programs available with indicators corresponding with broadcast media programs that have one or more bookmarks, wherein the appearances of the indicators vary to indicate differences in one or more properties associated with bookmarked broadcast media programs.

36. (Currently Amended) A computing device comprising:

a multimedia presentation unit;

~~a medium~~ one or more computer storage media as recited in claim 27.

37. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

means for receiving, at a first multimedia system at a first location, a bookmark indicating a position within a multimedia program, the bookmark having been sent from a second multimedia system at a second location;

means for presenting a UI on the first multimedia presentation system, the UI including a display of the bookmark and a prompt for user input to accept the bookmark and resume presentation of the multimedia program at the first multimedia presentation system, the UI being presented in direct response to receiving the bookmark, the UI not being presented in response to user interaction with the first multimedia presentation system;

means for receiving user input through the UI that indicates a user request to resume presentation of the multimedia program from the position of the bookmark;

means for requesting that a communicatively coupled multimedia server stream to the first multimedia presentation system, the multimedia program from the position of the bookmark; and

means for presenting the multimedia program at the first multimedia presentation system from the position of the bookmark.

38-63. (Cancelled)

64. (New) A computer storage medium having computer-executable instructions recorded thereon that, when executed by a processor, instructs the processor to perform operations comprising:

generating a bookmark to mark a point during a presentation of a program, the program being presented through a first presentation system at a first physical location within a physical environment;

receiving, through a user interface at the first presentation system, a selection of a second presentation system at a second physical location within the physical environment, the selection indicating that the bookmark is to be sent to the second presentation system; and

in response to the selection of the second presentation system through the user interface at the first presentation system, sending the bookmark to the second presentation system, causing the second presentation system to present, without user interaction, a user interface indicating the ability to resume, through the second presentation system, presentation of the program from the point marked by the bookmark.

65. (New) A computer storage medium as recited in claim 64, the operations further comprising storing multiple bookmarks for the program, wherein each bookmark has one or more properties associated therewith.

66. (New) A computer storage medium as recited in claim 64, the operations further comprising determining whether an action performed by a user is one which is designated to generate a bookmark and, if so, generating and storing the bookmark.

67. (New) A computer storage medium as recited in claim 66, wherein the action performed by the user comprises an action selected from a group of actions consisting of:

- selecting another source of multimedia content;
- viewing a list of other sources of multimedia content;
- manually pressing a “pause” key;
- manually pressing a “bookmark” key; and
- manually pressing another pre-defined key or choosing a pre-defined option.

68. (New) A computer storage medium as recited in claim 64, wherein properties associated with the bookmark are selected from a group of properties consisting of:

- identity of a user who manually bookmarked the presentation;
- chronological time when the bookmark was generated;
- chronological date when the bookmark was generated; and
- relative time during the presentation when the presentation was bookmarked.

69. (New) A computer storage medium as recited in claim 64, the operations further comprising receiving the multimedia program as part of a broadcast media transmission.

70. (New) A computer storage medium as recited in claim 64, the operations further comprising receiving the multimedia program as part of a broadcast media transmission, wherein the broadcast media transmission is one of incoming live television broadcast, incoming live cable television signal, incoming live satellite signal, incoming live video-on-demand signal, or incoming live pay-per-view signal.

71. (New) A computer storage medium as recited in claim 64, the operations further comprising sending the bookmark to each of a plurality of second presentation systems within the physical environment, enabling resumption of the program at the point of the bookmark from any of the plurality of second presentation systems within the physical environment.

72. (New) A computer storage medium as recited in claim 64, the operations further comprising presenting, through the user interface at the first presentation system, a listing of presentation systems within the physical environment to which the bookmark may be sent.

73. (New) A computing device within the physical environment, communicatively coupled to the first presentation system and the second presentation system, the computing device comprising:

a digital video recorder (DVR) unit;

a computer storage medium as recited in claim 64.

74. (New) A computing device as recited in claim 73, wherein the physical environment is a single building.

75. (New) A computing device as recited in claim 73, wherein the physical environment is a plurality of neighboring buildings.

76. (New) A method comprising:

- receiving a program from a media distribution system;
- streaming the program to a first presentation system at a first location over a local area network;
- presenting a first user interface (UI) through the first presentation system, the first UI enabling a user to bookmark a point in a program, and the first UI indicating a list of other presentation systems to which a bookmark can be sent;
- receiving, from the first presentation system, an indication of a point in a program;
- generating a bookmark representing the point in the program that is indicated;
- receiving, through the first UI and over the local area network, a user selection of a second presentation system from the list of other presentation systems;
- sending the bookmark to the second presentation system over the local area network; and
- presenting a second UI on the second presentation system, without user input on the second presentation system, wherein the second UI comprises an invitation for user

input to accept the bookmark and resume the program at the second presentation system.

77. (New) A method as recited in claim 76, wherein receiving the program from the media distribution system comprises receiving the program as part of a broadcast media transmission.

78. (New) A method as recited in claim 77, wherein the broadcast media transmission comprises at least one of an incoming live television broadcast, an incoming live cable television signal, an incoming live satellite signal, an incoming live video-on-demand signal, or an incoming live pay-per-view signal.

79. (New) A computer storage medium having processor-executable instructions recorded thereon that, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform operations comprising:

receiving a multimedia program from a media distribution system as part of a broadcast media transmission wherein the broadcast media transmission is selected from a group consisting of incoming live television broadcast, incoming live cable television signal, incoming live satellite signal, incoming live video-on-demand signal, and incoming live pay-per-view signal;

communicating over a local area network with a first multimedia presentation system at a first physical location to present the multimedia program through the first multimedia presentation system;

communicating over the local area network with the first multimedia presentation system to present a first user interface (UI) on the first multimedia presentation system, wherein the first UI provides a listing of other multimedia presentation systems available on the local area network, the other multimedia presentation systems including a second multimedia presentation system at a second physical location;

determining that a user-submitted input is one which is designated to generate a bookmark;

in response to the determining, generating a bookmark that indicates a point during presentation of the multimedia program through the first multimedia presentation system;

receiving, through the first UI, a user selection of the second multimedia presentation system as a resume location;

sending the bookmark over the local area network to the second multimedia presentation system;

communicating over the local area network with the second multimedia presentation system to present a second UI on the second multimedia presentation system, wherein the UI on the second multimedia system includes an invitation to accept the bookmark and resume the multimedia program at the second multimedia presentation system, wherein the second UI is presented on the second multimedia presentation system independent of receiving user input;

receiving, over the local area network and through the UI on the second multimedia presentation system, a user-submitted acceptance of the invitation to accept

the bookmark and resume the multimedia program at the second multimedia presentation system; and

streaming the multimedia program over the local area network to the second multimedia presentation system, beginning at the point indicated by the bookmark.

80. (New) A multimedia node communicatively coupled to a multimedia hub over a communications network, the multimedia node comprising:

a multimedia rendering unit configured to present multimedia content and one or more user interfaces (UIs) on a presentation device at a first locus; and

a computing unit configured to:

receive a media content bookmark from the multimedia hub, the media content bookmark being received in response to a user-submitted request at another multimedia node at a second locus, to create the media content bookmark and to send the media content bookmark to the multimedia node at the first locus;

upon receipt of the media content bookmark, and without user input, present a UI on the presentation device at the first locus, wherein the UI presented on the presentation device at the first locus includes an indication that the media content bookmark is available; and

upon user-selection of the indication that the media content bookmark is available, presenting, on the presentation device at the first locus, media content associated with the media content bookmark, beginning at a location within the media content that is indicated by the media content bookmark.

81. (New) A multimedia node as recited in claim 80, the media content being streamed to the multimedia node from the multimedia hub.

82. (New) A multimedia node as recited in claim 80, further comprising a user-interface control panel configured to receive a user-input action that triggers generation of a multimedia bookmark, such action is selected from a group consisting of:

- selection of another source of multimedia content;
- viewing a list of other sources of multimedia content;
- manually pressing a pause key;
- manually pressing a bookmark key; and
- manually pressing another pre-defined key or choosing a pre-defined option.

83. (New) A multimedia node system as recited in claim 80, wherein indication that the media content bookmark is available includes properties associated with the media content bookmark, the properties being selected from a group consisting of:

- identity of the media content;
- relative point of the bookmark during the presentation of the media content;
- a category of the media content that was bookmarked;
- a locus of a system where the media content bookmark was requested;
- an identity of a user who requested the media content bookmark;
- chronological time of the bookmark generating;
- chronological date of the bookmark generating;

relative time during the presentation of the media content when the presentation was bookmarked; and

graphical depiction of relative time when the presentation of the media content was bookmarked.

84. (New) A multimedia node as recited in claim 80, wherein the multimedia hub receives the media content as part of a broadcast media transmission.

85. (New) A multimedia node as recited in claim 84, wherein the broadcast media transmission is selected from a group consisting of incoming live television broadcast, incoming live cable television signal, incoming live satellite signal, incoming live video-on-demand signal, and incoming live pay-per-view signal.

86. (New) A method facilitating resumption of a presentation of media content at a resumption locus when the media content was bookmarked at an original locus different from the resumption locus, the method comprising:

receiving, by a multimedia presentation device at the resumption locus, bookmark data indicating a media content and a particular location within the media content, the media content being available for streaming to the multimedia presentation device from a server;

in response to receiving the bookmark data, and not in response to any user input, the multimedia presentation device presenting a user interface that indicates that the bookmark data has been received;

in response to presenting the user interface, receiving user input requesting to resume the presentation of media content;

resuming the presentation of the media content by the multimedia presentation device at resumption locus.

87. (New) A method as recited in claim 86 wherein the resumption locus is one of a plurality of loci.

88. (New) A multimedia presentation system comprising:

a server device having a first tuner and a second tuner, the first tuner operable to receive a first multimedia program, and the second tuner operable to receive a second multimedia program;

a first presentation system coupled to the first tuner over a local area network, the first presentation system being configured to receive and present the first multimedia program, and wherein the first presentation system is configured to generate a bookmark indicating a location within the first multimedia program; and

a second presentation system coupled to the second tuner over the local area network, the second presentation system being configured to receive and present the second multimedia program;

wherein:

the server device is configured to store the bookmark in association with the first multimedia program;

a user interface (UI) on the first presentation system is configured to prompt for user input indicating a presentation system available on the local area network to which the bookmark generated at the first presentation system is to be sent;

a UI at the second presentation system, the presentation system to which the bookmark is sent, is configured to prepare, for selection by a user, an indication that the user has arrived at the second presentation system and is ready to resume the first multimedia program as indicated by the bookmark, the indication being prepared in direct response to receiving the bookmark and independent of any user interaction with the second presentation system; and

the server device is further configured to allow the second presentation system to access the first multimedia program beginning at the location within the first multimedia program that is indicated by the bookmark.

89. (New) The multimedia presentation system as recited in claim 88, wherein:

the first and second presentation systems are the presentation systems at which the bookmark was generated and to which the bookmark was sent, respectively;

the bookmark is identified, at the second presentation system, in part by reference to the first presentation system at which the bookmark was generated; and

the server device is configured to swap the first and second tuners in response to the bookmark, such that the first presentation system is coupled to the second tuner over the local area network and the second presentation system is coupled to the first tuner over the local area network.

90. (New) The multimedia presentation system as recited in claim 88, wherein:
the user interface (UI) on the first presentation system comprises a plurality of keys, each key associated with a location to which a bookmark can be sent; and
the UI at the second presentation system comprises a plurality of keys, each key associated with a bookmark received at the second presentation system and each key labeled with a time the bookmark was made.

91. (New) The multimedia presentation system as recited in claim 88, wherein the user interface (UI) on the first presentation system comprises a plurality of keys, each key associated with rooms in a home that contain presentation systems.

92. (New) A multimedia presentation system as recited in claim 88, wherein the UI on the first presentation system is additionally configured to send the bookmark generated at the first presentation system to a plurality of presentation systems upon which the first multimedia program can be resumed.

93. (New) A multimedia-content resumption architecture comprising:

a centralized multimedia server comprising:

one or more multimedia-content receivers configured to receive multimedia programs as part of one or more broadcast media transmissions;

a storage unit configured to store the multimedia programs;

a computing unit configured to generate and store one or more bookmarks associated with a particular multimedia content;

a plurality of multimedia presentations systems that are communicatively coupled to the centralized multimedia server, each of the plurality of multimedia presentations systems comprising:

a multimedia rendering unit configured to present the multimedia programs and one or more user interfaces; and

a computing unit configured to communicate with the centralized multimedia server and further configured to generate the one or more user interfaces for presentation via the multimedia rendering unit, the computing unit further configured to receive and present the multimedia programs using the one or more bookmarks from the centralized multimedia server;

wherein, in response to a user-submitted request to create a bookmark in a particular multimedia program being presented through a first multimedia presentation system of the plurality of multimedia presentation systems:

a user interface on the first multimedia presentation system is configured to prompt a user to indicate a second multimedia presentation system to which the bookmark is to be sent; and

a user interface at the second multimedia presentation system, upon receiving the bookmark, is configured to, without user intervention, present, for user selection, an indication that the particular multimedia program is available for presentation from a location of the bookmark.

94. (New) An architecture as recited in claim 93, wherein the storage unit of the centralized multimedia server is further configured to store the multimedia programs.

95. (New) An architecture as recited in claim 93, wherein the computing unit is further configured to generate and store at least two bookmarks associated with the particular multimedia content.

96. (New) A medium as recited in claim 93, wherein one or more broadcast media transmissions are selected from a group consisting of incoming live television broadcast, incoming live cable television signal, incoming live satellite signal, incoming live video-on-demand signal, and incoming live pay-per-view signal.

97. (New) An architecture as recited in claim 93, wherein the centralized multimedia server is operable to swap a first receiver of the one or more multimedia-content receivers with a second receiver of the one or more multimedia-content receivers if a bookmark created at a first multimedia presentation system associated with the first receiver is accessed at a second multimedia presentation system associated with the second receiver.

98. (New) An architecture as recited in claim 97, wherein after the centralized multimedia server swaps the first receiver with the second receiver, the first multimedia presentation system is associated with the second receiver and the second multimedia presentation system is associated with the first receiver.

99. (New) An architecture as recited in claim 98, wherein after the centralized multimedia server shares the first receiver, both the first and the second multimedia presentation systems are associated with the first receiver.

100. (New) An architecture as recited in claim 93, wherein the centralized multimedia server is operable to share a first receiver of the one or more multimedia-content receivers if a bookmark created at a first multimedia presentation system associated with the first receiver is accessed at a second multimedia presentation system associated with a second receiver.

101. (New) A multimedia server system, the multimedia server system being configured to be communicatively coupled to a plurality of multimedia presentation systems, the server system comprising:

a plurality of multimedia-content receivers configured to receive multimedia programs, a first receiver of the one or more multimedia-content receivers associated with a first multimedia presentation system of the multimedia presentation systems, and a second receiver of the one or more multimedia-content receiver associated with a second multimedia presentation system of the plurality of multimedia presentation systems;

one or more storage units configured to store the multimedia programs;

a computing unit configured to:

bookmark a point during a presentation of a multimedia program of the multimedia programs on the first multimedia presentation system to generate a bookmark;

associate one or more properties with the bookmark;

store the bookmark in association with the multimedia program;

perform at least one of:

swap the first receiver with the second receiver if the bookmark is accessed on the second multimedia presentation system, to associate the first receiver with the second multimedia presentation system and to associate the second receiver with the first multimedia presentation system; or

share the first receiver if the bookmark is accessed on the second multimedia presentation system, to present on the first multimedia presentation system the multimedia program from the first receiver, and to present on the second multimedia presentation system the multimedia program from the first receiver;

wherein a user interface (UI) associated with the first multimedia presentation system is configured to prompt for a location to which to send a bookmark generated at the first multimedia presentation system, and wherein a UI at a second multimedia presentation system, to which the bookmark was sent, is configured to prepare, independent of user input, for selection by a user, an indication that a program has arrived at the second multimedia presentation system and is ready to resume presentation as indicated by the bookmark.

102. (New) A server system as recited in claim 101 further comprising a user-interface control panel configured to receive user input action that triggers generation of the bookmark, such action is selected from a group consisting of:

- selection of another source of multimedia content;
- viewing a list of other sources of multimedia content;
- manually pressing “pause key”;
- manually pressing “bookmark” key; and
- manually pressing another pre-defined key, or choosing a pre-defined option.

103. (New) A server system as recited in claim 101, wherein the properties associated with the bookmark are selected from a group consisting of:

- locus of system where the presentation was bookmarked;
- identity of user who manually bookmarked the presentation;
- chronological time of the bookmark generating;
- chronological date of the bookmark generating;
- relative time during the presentation where the presentation was bookmarked.

104. (New) A server system as recited in claim 101, wherein:

the first and second receivers are the receivers at which the bookmark was generated and to which the bookmark was sent, respectively;

the bookmark is identified, at the second presentation system, in part by reference to the first multimedia presentation system at which the bookmark was generated;

the multimedia server system is configured to swap the first and second multimedia content receivers, resulting in the second multimedia presentation system being associated with a first tuner, a first buffer, and first recorded content previously associated with the first multimedia presentation system, and the first multimedia presentation system being associated with a second tuner, a second buffer, and second recorded content previously associated with the second multimedia presentation system; and

the multimedia server system is configured to share the first multimedia-content receiver, resulting in both the first and second multimedia presentation systems being associated with the first tuner, the first buffer, and the first recorded content.

105. (New) A server system as recited in claim 101, wherein the one or more multimedia-content receivers are further configured to receive the multimedia program as part of a broadcast media transmission, wherein the broadcast media transmission is selected from a group consisting of incoming live television broadcast, incoming live cable television signal, incoming live satellite signal, incoming live video-on-demand signal, and incoming live pay-per-view signal.

106. (New) A multimedia system comprising:

a multimedia server comprising a first tuner and a second tuner, the first tuner operable to receive a first multimedia program, and the second tuner operable to receive a second multimedia program;

a first presentation system coupled to the multimedia server and associated with the first tuner, the first presentation system operable to receive and present the first multimedia program; and

a second presentation system coupled to the multimedia server and associated with the second tuner, the second presentation system operable to receive and present the second multimedia program;

wherein the multimedia server is configured to:

receive from the first presentation system, a user-submitted request to bookmark a location within the first multimedia program and to resume presentation of the first multimedia program at the second presentation system; and

in response to the user-submitted request, store the bookmark in association with the first multimedia program and, without receiving a request from the second presentation system, send an indication of the bookmark to the second presentation system.

107. (New) A multimedia system as recited in claim 106, wherein:

the bookmark is identified, at the second presentation system, in part by reference to the first presentation system at which the bookmark was generated; and

the multimedia server swaps receivers for the first and second presentation systems, resulting in the first tuner, a first buffer, and a first recorded content previously associated with the first presentation system being associated with the second presentation system and the second tuner, a second buffer, and a second recorded content previously associated with the second presentation system being associated with the first presentation system if the bookmark, requested through the first presentation system, is accessed by a user of the second presentation system.

108. (New) A multimedia system as recited in claim 106, wherein the multimedia server shares the first tuner with both the first and the second multimedia presentation systems.

109. (New) A multimedia system as recited in claim 106, further comprising a user-interface control panel configured to receive user input action that triggers generation of the bookmark, such action is selected from a group consisting of:

selection of another source of multimedia content;

viewing a list of other sources of multimedia content;

manually pressing “pause key”;

manually pressing “bookmark” key; and

manually pressing another pre-defined key, or choosing a pre-defined option.

110. (New) A multimedia system as recited in claim 106, wherein the multimedia server is further operable to:

associate one or more properties with the bookmark; and

store the bookmark in association with the first multimedia program;

wherein the properties associated with the bookmark are selected from a group consisting of:

a locus of system where the presentation was bookmarked;

an identity of user who manually bookmarked the presentation;

a chronological time of the bookmark generating;

a chronological date of the bookmark generating; and

a relative time during the presentation where the presentation was bookmarked.

111. (New) A multimedia system as recited in claim 106, wherein in response to the user-submitted request, presenting, through the second presentation system, a user interface indicating that the first multimedia program is available.

112. (New) A multimedia system as recited in claim 106, wherein the user-submitted request to bookmark a location within the first multimedia program and to resume presentation of the first multimedia program at the second presentation system sends an indication of the bookmark to each of a plurality of second presentation systems.